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Serial No.: 09/656,987

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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

A listing of an entire set of claims 1-30 is submitted herewith per 37 CFR §1.121. This listing of claims 1-30 will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An electric lamp, comprising:
a light source (2) operable to emit a visible light;
a light-transmitting lamp vessel (1) accommodating said light source (2) whereby the visible light propagates through said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1); and
a light-absorbing coating (3) at least partially covering said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1) whereby the visible light propagates into said light-absorbing coating (3) from said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1), said light-absorbing coating (3) including
an organically modified silane network, and
a plurality of pigment particles dispersed through said organically modified silane network, said plurality of pigment particles including means for absorption characteristics absorbing a first portion of the visible light propagating through said light-absorbing coating (3) without generating a light scattering of a second portion of the visible light propagating through said light-absorbing coating (3).

12. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein an average diameter of said plurality of pigment particles is less than 50 nm.

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13. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said light-absorbing coating (3) is in liquid form prior to be coated on said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1); and

wherein said liquid form of said light-absorbing coating (3) includes a hydrolysis mixture including said originally modified silane network, and

at least one liquid mixture including a dispersion of said plurality of pigments therein.

14. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said plurality of pigment particles are dispersed throughout said organically modified silane network prior to the at least partial covering of said light-absorbing coating (3) on said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1).

15. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said organically modified silane is selected from a group formed by compounds of the following structural formula: $R^1Si(OR^{II})_3$,

wherein R^1 includes at least one of an alkyl group and an aryl group, and wherein R^{II} includes an alkyl group.

16. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 15, wherein the R^1 group includes at least one of CH_3 and C_6H_5 .

17. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 15, wherein the R^{II} group includes at least one of CH_3 and C_2H_5

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18. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein a thickness of said light-absorbing coating (3) is equal to or greater than 1 μm .
19. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said organically modified silane network includes a plurality of silica particles.
20. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 19, wherein each silica particle has a diameter less than or equal to 50nm.
21. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said pigment particles are inorganic pigment particles.
22. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said pigment particles are organic pigment particles.
23. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, wherein said pigment particles include a mixture of inorganic pigment particles and organic pigment particles.
24. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, further comprising:
a lamp housing (10) connected to said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1).
25. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 11, further comprising:
a reflector (30) for reflecting the second portion of the visible light to generate a directed beam.

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26. (Previously Presented) An electric lamp, comprising:
 - a light source (2) operable to emit a visible light;
 - a light-transmitting lamp vessel (1) accommodating said light source (2) whereby the visible light propagates through said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1); and
 - a single layer light-absorbing coating (3) at least partially covering said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1) whereby the visible light propagates into said single layer light-absorbing coating (3) from said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1), said single layer light-absorbing coating (3) including
 - an organically modified silane network, and
 - a plurality of pigment particles dispersed through said organically modified silane network, said plurality of pigment particles for absorbing a first portion of the visible light propagating through said light-absorbing coating (3) without generating a substantial light scattering of a second portion of the visible light propagating through said light-absorbing coating (3).
27. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 26,
 - wherein said light-absorbing coating (3) is in liquid form prior to be coated on said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1); and
 - wherein said liquid form of said light-absorbing coating (3) includes
 - a hydrolysis mixture including said originally modified silane network,
 - and
 - at least one liquid mixture including a dispersion of said plurality of pigments therein.

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28. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 26, wherein said plurality of pigment particles are dispersed throughout said organically modified silane network prior to the at least partial covering of said light-absorbing coating (3) on said light-transmitting lamp vessel (1).

29. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 26, wherein said organically modified silane is selected from a group formed by compounds of the following structural formula: $R^1Si(OR^{11})_3$,

wherein R^1 includes at least one of an alkyl group and an aryl group, and wherein R^{11} includes an alkyl group.

30. (Previously Presented) The electric lamp of claim 26, wherein said pigment particles includes one of inorganic pigment particles, organic pigment particles or a mixture of inorganic pigment particles and organic pigment particles.